Central Silk Board is executing two special SWARNAJAYANTI GRAM SWAROJGAR YOJANA (SGSY) Projects in the name of "Sonali Sutha Prakalpa" at a total cost of Rs. 9.72 crore. A third Project on "Weaving and Marketing of Silk Products" of Rs. 9.48 crore is also being implemented for a period of four years commencing from 2001-02. The Government of Assam is also actively considering creating of new avenues and infrastructure to develop these industries.

Impact of removal of quantitative restrictions on SSI

1311. DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any assessment of the impact of dismantling of quantitative import controls on the small scale industry; and

(b) if so, the findings thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) Government is constantly monitoring the impact of dismantling of quantitative import controls on the economy including the small scale industry (SSI) in the country. While the removal of Quantitative Restrictions (QRs) have exposed the SSI to greater competition, there has not been any surge in imports as a consequence of this step. The small scale industry in India have enough competitive strengths to withstand the impact of dismantling of quantitative import controls. Even after the removal of QRs, protection to the industries is available in the form of raising custom duties upto the bound levels, imposing anti-dumping duties, taking safeguards measures in case of surge in imports, etc.

Dereservation of some items in the interest of SSI

1312. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to dereserve more items in some sectors;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether various associations of the Small Scale Industries in the country have been consulted on such dereservation; and

(d) if so, the details of their response?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) In the Union Budget, 2002-2003 presented in Parliament on 28th Febraury 2002, Government have proposed the dereservation of over 50 items of knitwear, certain agricultural implements, auto components, some chemicals & drugs and others.

(c) and (d) The issue of reservations/dereservation of items for exclusive manufacture in the small scale industrial sector is examined on a continual basis by the Government and is based on the recommendations of the Advisory Committee constituted under the Industries Development & Regulation Act, 1951. In addition, the Ministry of Small Scale Industries also consults stakeholders regarding various entries in the list. Items are considered for dereservation based on such reviews and consultations.

Sick Industries in Andhra Pradesh

1313. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of small scale industries in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) the number of small scale industries declared as sick, industry-wise;

(c) the number of workers engaged in these industries, industry-wise and

(d) the steps taken/being taken by Government to review these industries and tackle the sickness problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA